

For Immediate Release

For More information

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-Press Release-

MAYOR GANIM ANNOUNCES CITY OF BRIDGEPORT GOVERNMENT OFFICES CLOSED THROUGH FRIDAY, MARCH 20TH DUE TO PUBLIC HEALTH EMERGENCY

BRIDGEPORT, CT – Mayor Ganim announced all City of Bridgeport government offices will be closed and nonessential services will be suspended until Friday, March 20th, 2020. This closure announcement is a precaution to maximize social distancing to protect staff and residents from the spread and contraction of COVID-19.

The Mayor's office will operate as usual but with minimal staffing and employees working remotely. Police, Fire, Emergency Management, and other public safety and essential services continue to remain operational.

Further communications will be issued to employees and the public as information is received and decisions are made to support the welfare of our city. Employees should connect with their department head or supervisor with any questions.

Members of the public are encouraged to call city offices with specific questions but, in general, are encouraged to be patient and utilize email. A list of City Departments with staff email addresses available at https://www.bridgeportct.gov/content/341307/default.aspx.

Online Payments and continuing to do business with city agencies without interruption and are available online at Bridgeportct.gov.

The City and Mayor's Office continue to share updates as we receive information and decisions are made in the interest of health and safety. We encourage anyone that can to follow city social media on Facebook at @bridgeportct and @joeganim.

The Office of Emergency Management provides Emergency Alerts via text and encourages the public to register https://veoci.com/veoci/p/form/y9qpadaf4mq9#welcomePage.

Please be advised of the following City closings and delayed services:

- Bridgeport Public Schools Closed through March 31st
 - Food services for Breakfast and Lunch provided as "Grab & Go"
 - Visit bridgeportedu.net for locations and times
- Bridgeport Transfer Station Closed through March 20th
 - Sanitation/garbage pickup remains on schedule
 - To Protect Public Facilities Staff PLEASE BE SURE YOUR <u>TRASH IS BAGGED</u> and not left loose in the Toter*
 - Recycling is postponed for two (2) weeks
- Bridgeport Public Libraries Closed through April 3rd
- Bridgeport Public Parks and all Recreational Activities Closed through March 20th
- Bridgeport Health Clinic on East Main Street Closed March 20th
- Bridgeport City Hall at 45 Lyon Terrace Closed March 20th
- Bridgeport Government Center at 999 Broad Street Closed March 20th
- Bridgeport Senior Centers closed through March 20th
- Connecticut's Beardsley Zoo closed until March 31st
- Fairchild Wheeler Golf Course closed until further notice
- WPCA East Side Customer Service Center closed until further notice

Additional details and information about Bridgeport closings available at: https://www.bridgeportct.gov/coronaclosings

In in coordination with governors from New York and New Jersey, in an effort to slow the spread of COVID-19 with guidance provided by US Centers for Disease Control, **Governor Ned Lamont has issued the following:**

- Restrict gatherings of more than 50 people.
- Order the closure of Connecticut restaurants, bars, gyms and movie theaters.
- Restaurants and bars will be allowed to continue food delivery and takeout.
- Supermarkets, pharmacies, gas stations and other essential businesses will remain open.

This State mandate will begin at 8 p.m. Monday, March 16th, and remain in effect until further notice. Governor Lamont stressed the importance of social distancing, particularly for older residents and those with weakened immune systems.

For information from the State of Connecticut on COVID-19 visit ct.gov/coronavirus.